Fellowship
PEACE INFORMATION EDITION

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## CONTINUED BERLIN CRISIS EMPHASIZES NATION'S RIGIDITY

While an increasing number of scientists, philosophers snd statesmen se their voices in warnings about the revolutionary nature of the world's cur- t crisis (inquiring Congressmen are told by military leaders that an all-out war h the Soviet Union could not possibly last more than three days'), political ders go on dealing with the symptoms of that crisis as though nothing had nged since 1939. The Berlin situation is the current instance of how pre- ious is the "peace," and of how in- equate is our national response. reat produces counter-threat; bluff ries both sides to the very brink of aster where, like reckless juveniles ying "chicken," they desperately nch the wheel to avoid collision.

George F. Kennan, architect of the erican policy of "containment," nowledges that at the least it is moded, and his current proposals "disengagement" are discussed h feverish hope in Britain and on the ntinent. The U. S. State Department unimpressed: each new diplomatic propaganda proposal by the Soviets s from it only the characterization 'unsatisfactory," and never an effec- e counter-proposal.

We are in the remarkable position seeing both sides depending on the ience and good sense of the other draw back from the ultimate mistake. ere is a general feeling that the So- ts will not risk a collision of force he West stands firm in Berlin, and re is probably the same feeling on other side. The trouble is that en both sides are bluffing, a single pt move may make it impossible to hdraw, a single reckless colonel y precipitate the cataclysm.

The United Nations has just re- sed its first full-length moving pic- e, *Power Among Men*, with the thesis t men have power to build and to troy. The makers of the film ob- usly were possessed by the fearful wledge of the kind of precipice man- kind is treading. "Men build, and men destroy, and then rebuild again," the film says, "but sometimes there is no rebuilding."

The focus of crisis moves from Le- banon to Quemoy to Berlin, and it will go on moving from spot to spot until at some point the control slips and the bombs drop that will leave no place for rebuilding. Unless we begin soon to deal with the real issues that make the crisis.

### *"Ride Around the Bomb"*

*A dramatic demonstration of the nature of nuclear war will be held in the New York City area this month when a motorcade will circle the "perimeter of total destruction" from a single H-bomb, and columns of walkers will parade from points on the perimeter to the "epicenter."*

*The unusual "Act for Peace" is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 27 and 28, climaxing in a meeting at 41st Street and Sixth Avenue. It is directed by a "Walk for Peace" Committee initiated by the Committee on Nonviolent Action, of which FOR is a part. Co-chairmen are Roger N. Baldwin, Prof. Seymour Melman and A. J. Muste. Information is available from the committee at Room 825, 5 Beekman Street, New York 38, or from the FOR, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.*

# Fellowship

PEACE INFORMATION EDITION

Box 271, Nyack, New York

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## Seek Aid for Jailed Alabama Negro Leader

Asbury Howard, 57-year old labor leader and former president of the Bessemer, Alabama, branch of the outlawed National Association for the Advancement of Colored people, has been an articulate and vigorous leader of a campaign to persuade Negroes to register and vote. Last month, as part of that effort, he went to a printer to have reproductions made of a newspaper cartoon on the subject. For that crime he was beaten up in the courthouse by forty white men while police stood by, and sentenced to six months on the chain gang.

Howard's attorney was refused bail for his client pending appeal to the Alabama Supreme Court, and has be unable even to get a writ of habeas c pus signed. Howard reportedly has be paraded through the Negro section Bessemer on the chain gang as "example," and his friends say th fear for his life.

The American Civil Liberties Uni has issued a statement on the ca and other groups and private citize are urging Attorney General Willi Rogers to intervene on the groun that the Federal Civil Rights Law h been violated. Letters also should sent to Alabama's Governor John P terson, State House, Montgome Alabama.

## S. Africa to Try 61 In April Treason Trials

Sixty-one South Africans will go to court in Johannesburg on April 2 charged with high treason because their nonviolent opposition to their go ernment's policy of *apartheid*. The la Prime Minister Strijdom once summ up the case in these words: "Anyo who works against *apartheid* is guil of treason."

Thirty other defendants went trial on Jan. 19. Expenses for leg fees and minimal support for the fa

**Conference on Policy.** *Ten peace leaders met at Shadowcliff, national headquarte of the FOR at Nyack, N. Y., over the weekend of February 27--March 1, to d cuss the possibilities of applying reconciling and creative principles to war-ter international relations. Clockwise from foreground, Profs. Amiya Chakravarty a Paul Deats, Boston University School of Theology; Prof. Charles Lawren Brooklyn College Sociologist and FOR National Chairman; John Swomley, FO Rep. Byron Johnson, of Colorado, an FOR National Council member; Stew Meacham, AFSC Labor Relations Secretary; Sidney Lens, labor leader and auth Also participating were A. J. Muste and Alfred Hassler of FOR.*

es of the 91 enemies of racism have ounted to $250,000 during more than o years of grueling litigation. Alan ton, Bishop Ambrose Reeves and ers in South Africa estimate that 50,000 is urgently needed to cover v costs now forced on the defend- s.

In the United States, the South ica Defense Fund (4 West 40th St., Y. 18, N. Y.) is asking for contri- ions to help in the struggle. Direc- of the Fund is FOR Executive Com- tee member George M. Houser. Among Fund's sponsors are William Er- st Hocking, Eleanor Roosevelt and R Advisory Council members Harry erson Fosdick, and Howard Thurman.

A similar appeal is being carried in England by Christian Action, ong whose members are Donald ber and George Macleod.

## peals Court Upholds R Tax-Exempt Claim

A unanimous decision of a 5-judge rt of the Appellate Division of the v York State Supreme Court on Feb- ry 24 moved the Fellowship of Re- ciliation another long step toward acknowledgement of its tax-exempt us in that state. The appeals court ision affirmed a previous action by lower bench in twice denying a ion through which the Village of er Nyack sought a judgment on the is of arguments and evidence sub- ed before trial.

The case began after the Fellow- p's purchase of property in Upper ck, N. Y., for its national head- rters. New York State law provides matic tax exemption on real estate religious, educational and other nizations functioning on a nonprofit is, but requires the organization to in a court order where local tax norities do not acknowledge its us.

n opposing the Fellowship's appli- on for such an order, attorneys for Village of Upper Nyack attacked fism as "illegal," as well as ailing technical aspects of the R's ownership. In denying the village's motion, the court struck down these arguments and left for formal trial only the "question of fact" as to whether the Fellowship's nature and activities are as represented in its brief.

The Fellowship's tax-exempt position as it relates to deduction of contributions for income-tax purposes has been recognized by the federal government and various state governments for almost 40 years.

Conrad J. Lynn has acted as the FOR's attorney. He was joined in the argument before the Appellate Division by FOR member Prof. Harrop Freeman of the Cornell Law School.

## Unofficial FOR Shows Strength in East Germany

"Unlicensed" by the Communist government, the FOR has no official existence in East Germany these days but continues to have a strong core of "friends," recent reports from that country indicate. German pacifist literature goes steadily into the hands of these "friends," and is distributed by them. A conference in Berlin sponsored by the West German Fellowship drew 40 participants from East Berlin.

Berlin pacifists have problems unique to their situation. Street meetings protesting nuclear warfare are not broken up by police or hecklers, but frequently are infiltrated by East Berlin Communists, who attempt to direct the meeting into approval of Communist anti-bomb attitudes. The pacifists, having learned by experience that these attitudes are not so much pro-peace as pro-Soviet, have found the best tactic simply to dissolve the meeting when the infiltrators arrive.

## Golden to National Conference

Harry Golden, author of the best-selling "Only in America" and editor of the *Carolina Israelite*, has agreed to speak at the FOR National Conference this summer if he is in the country. Tentative date for Golden's appearance is the conference's opening meeting on August 18.

## Non-Pacifist Clergyman Defends FOR in Cincinnati

A belated report on the aftermath of the December trial of tax-refusing Rev. Maurice McCrackin, in Cincinnati, discloses that the non-pacifist rector of that city's Christ (Episcopal) Church vigorously defended the Fellowship of of Reconciliation against an attack on it by Federal Judge John H. Druffel.

Judge Druffel, in sentencing Mr. McCrackin, had observed from the bench that the minister had contributed to the Fellowship of Reconciliation, which has "overwhelming Soviet sympathies." He added that "We won't go into whether you are a card-carrying Communist or not."

The Rev. Morris F. Arnold preached on the subject two days later. Dissociating himself from the non-cooperation tactics used by Mr. McCrackin, he said of Judge Druffel's attack:

"This is a level of viciously false accusation by deliberate statement and by innuendo by a Judge of our country, a man whose very position is supposed to be a safeguard against this kind of thing.

"The Fellowship of Reconciliation is a pacifist organization of the Christian Church...

"Though personally I cannot and do not agree with the position of the Fellowship of Reconciliation on the matter of pacifism, I respect it as a possible Christian position...

"To imply that the Fellowship of Reconciliation is in any way Communistic or to say that it has Soviet sympathies is simply not in accord with the facts!"

## DATES TO REMEMBER

*March 20-22.* AFSC Weekend confere at Woolman Hill, Mass., on "The P tics of Pacifism." Write: AFSC, P. Box 247, Cambridge 38, Mass.

*April 20-23.* Church Peace Mission C ference at First Baptist Church, Eva ton, Ill. Write: A. J. Muste, CPM, 1 Broadway, New York 10, N. Y.

*April 23-25.* FOR National Coun meetings at Evanston, Ill. Write: Alf Hassler, FOR, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y

*April 18.* Youth March for Integra Schools, Washington, D. C. In New Y City, phone MO 6-9700, or write yard Rustin, Youth March for Integra Schools, 312 West 125th St., New Y 27, N. Y.

*May 5.* New York FOR Annual Din at Christ Church (Methodist), featur Rep. Byron Johnson. Write: A. J. Mus NYFOR, 1133 Broadway, N. Y. 10, N.

*May 8.* Philadelphia FOR Annual D ner. Speaker: Rep. Byron Johns Write: Philadelphia Area FOR, 2 Walnut St., Phila. 3, Pa.

*August 5-12.* IFOR International C ference at Schloss Trautenfels, A tria. Write: John Nevin Sayre, IFC Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

*August 15-18.* FOR Family Camp a *August 18-22.* FOR National Conf ence, at Green Lake, Wisconsin. Wri Glenn Smiley, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y

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**Box 271, Nyack, New York**

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